



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attorney Docket No. VD1-3057-U

IN THE UNITED STATES

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 2236 )  
Applicant: VOELKER, Dean E. )  
Serial No.: 10/688,422 ) Art Unit:  
Filed: October 16, 2003 ) 3679  
Title: SLIP COUPLING FOR PIPE, AND ) Examiner:  
METHOD OF USING A SLIP COUPLING ) n/a  
IN PIPELINES FOR COLLECTION OF )  
LANDFILL GAS )

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements.
2. ☒ Time of Filing.
3. ☒ FORMS PTO/SB08a and 08B (formerly FORM PTO 1449).
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need to be Submitted.
5. ☐ Cumulative Patents or Publications.
6. ☒ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement.
7. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents.
8. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as **Express Mail Post Office to Addressee, mailing label No.: ER559811775US** in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

RHONDA GOODLOE

Date: March 18, 2004

**1. Preliminary Statements**

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications and other information of which he is aware which he believes may possibly be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR § 1.197(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, (37 CFR § 1.97(h) or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

If documents are disclosed that, based on date of publication, may not be prior art to the applicant, then such publications are merely offered for consideration with respect to the state of development of the art, and shall in no way be considered as admissions against interest in any manner.

**2. Time of Filing**

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits. 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3).

**3. Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO 1449)**

See attached PTO Form SB-08A - Citation in Application.

**4. Identification of Prior Application In Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies are Submitted or Need to be Submitted.**

- ☐ This application relies, under 35 USC § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ This application also relies, under 35 USC sec 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Therefore, references which were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) are not required to be provided in this application, in accord with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (d).

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5. Cumulative Patents or Publications

☐ Statement

\_\_\_\_\_ is cumulative of the following patents or publications listed on Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly PTO-1449).

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98(c), a copy of only \_\_\_\_\_ is being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement.

6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO 1449) accompany this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ Exceptions to the above:

☐ Items which were disclosed in the prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4; such items not submitted are marked by an "\*" asterik on PTO Form SB/08A (formerly PTO Form 1449).

☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

7. Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents

There are no non-English Language documents enclosed.

8. Identification of Person(s) Making This INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

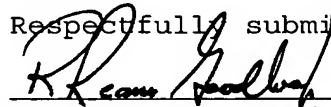
The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventors and information in the practitioner's file, all of which have been reviewed by the practitioner.

Date: March 18, 2004

Phone: 253-859-9128

Fax: 253-859-8915

Respectfully submitted,



SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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VTO/SB/08A (0803) +

Approved for use through 07/31/06 OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449 A/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Application Number	10/688,422
Filing Date	October 16, 2003
First Named Inventor	VOELKER, Dean E.
Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	N/A
Attorney Docket Number	VD1-3057-U

Sheet: 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT OF CITED DOCUMENT	PAGES, COLUMNS, LINES, WHERE RELEVANT PASSAGES OR RELEVANT FIGURES APPEAR
		2562946	08/1951	Read	
		3631895	01/1972	Medina, et al	
		4334578	06/1982	Labrum	
		6044904	04/2000	Shafer	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind <sup>5</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT OF CITED DOCUMENT	PAGES, COLUMNS, LINES, WHERE RELEVANT PASSAGES OR RELEVANT FIGURES APPEAR	T <sup>6</sup>

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER\*: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two letter code. <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

SEND COMPLETED FORMS TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O.. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.